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Spooky scene
Madelyn Walker and Kennedy Gill had fun seeing the scenes at the McCutcheon family Halloween event, and also posing for photos at the Skeleton Showcase sites set up around a private walking trail in the woods. Read the story on page 10. / Submitted photo

Land trust looks to Lochlin wetland

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Wetlands are important natural features in combatting the effects of climate change, and the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is looking to further protect such areas within

the county by having a large wetland near Lochlin deemed provincially significant.

The land trust received funding through the RBC Foundation for the project, retaining biologist Paul Heaven to conduct the wetland assessment work and submit an application to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to have the area designated as provincially significant. Having the pro-

vincially significant designation protects a wetland from development, and the evaluation process looks at four criteria including hydrological, biological, social and special features. The Lochlin wetland complex encompasses some 1,000 hectares.

"Wetlands have the natural ability to attenuate flooding," Heaven said, speaking to their role in helping mitigate the impacts of

climate change. While more frequent flooding is one of these impacts – one that's becoming increasingly common and widespread in Haliburton County each spring – wetlands have the ability to absorb these floodwaters. Along with absorbing water, wetlands also absorb carbon from the atmosphere.

"These are rich, rich carbon sinks," Heaven

see TAX page 2

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Tax incentives available for wetland property owners

from page 1

said, explaining how wetlands are able to sequester carbon with their thick peat. “ ... To just maintain [wetlands in the county] will help mitigate climate change impacts down the road.”

As Heaven noted, the Lochlin wetland complex is significant to the land trust for a few reasons. First, it provides connectivity between three of its properties – the Dahl Forest, Fred and Pearl Barry Wetland Reserve and Barnum Creek Nature Reserve – all of which contain wetland features. It also provides substantial wetland connectivity between two provincial parks – the Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park near Bancroft, and the Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands Provincial Park near Minden. Not only is this connectivity important in mitigating the consequences of climate change, but since animals tend to move about as a result of those consequences, it’s also important in protecting the area’s biodiversity.

“Biodiversity is so important to our well-being,” Heaven said. Heaven completed an assessment of the nearby Milburn wetland complex back in 2018, that wetland receiving a provincially significant designation.

A number of landowners within and abutting the Lochlin wetland complex allowed Heaven access to their properties in order to conduct his assessment work.

“We were very pleased to offer the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust access to our property at Ritchie Falls, to allow Paul Heaven to work on their Lochlin Wetland Complex mapping project,” Lochlin residents Greg and Bonnie Roe said in a release. “Over the years we have been impressed with what they have done to preserve, and improve, packages of land throughout the county. As well, we have appreciated and enjoyed their various educational walks/events. In short, they are a very valuable asset to Haliburton County.”

Public education was also part of the project.

“HHLT contacted landowners in this complex to increase their awareness of the special role they play in good stewardship of their properties,” read a release from the land trust. “These landowners and the public were invited to a hands-on, interactive workshop on wetlands and climate change. Participants at the workshop learned about the value of wetlands and the ecosystem services they provide. All participants were encouraged to take home an HHLT booklet on best management practices for protecting wetlands as a climate change adaptation strategy.”

Property owners with wetlands on their properties are also eligible for a tax incentive that offers a 100 per cent tax break on that portion of the property if they commit it to long-term conservation.

“We’re excited to be working with Haliburton Highlands Land Trust to tackle one of the most pressing issues of our time – climate change,” Valerie Chort, vice president of corporate citizenship for RBC said in a release. “Using our more-than-money approach, we will leverage the assets in our ecosystem to proactively bring together charitable partners, along with the required experts, to build the type of multi-partner coalitions that are needed to address and solve



Blanding’s turtles and painted turtles basking on a log in the Lochlin wetland complex. /Photo submitted



A conifer swamp. /Photo submitted

our shared environmental challenges.”

For more information about the land trust, visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca



Sundew growing within the Lochlin wetland complex. /Photo submitted

Tammy Nash took a moment to reflect on the remaining fall colours on Thursday, Oct. 22 at Maple Lake.



MH staff to remain in office for now

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

Minden Hills staff who work out of the township's administrative building on Milne Street will continue working from the location for now.

Minden Hills council held a special meeting held virtually via Zoom on Oct. 22 to discuss a recommendation from the township emergency control group that staff be sent to work from home amid rising confirmed COVID-19 cases in the province as Ontario experiences a second wave of the virus. Staff members had worked from home during the initial wave of the virus.

"The ECG discussed that the work at home model implemented earlier this year was successful and that business continuity was maintained," read a report from township chief administrative officer Trisha McKibbin, who started with the township in July. "Staff who were working from home beginning in March returned to the physical workplace on July 6. Currently, all staff are reporting and conducting tasks in the physical workplace. There are current instances where department heads are working from home. The ECG felt that staff members could work from home and then schedule time in the office for such things as photocopying or printing."

McKibbin told councillors other admin offices in the county were open to either walk-in traffic or appointments.

"The county is open to the public, so the building is open for walk-in traffic," McKibbin said. "Dysart, Highlands East and Algonquin Highlands are all doing the practices and protocols that we are, which is we are open by appointment, which means we're not open to walk-in traffic, but if somebody needs to meet with staff for a permit review or paperwork, an appointment is scheduled for staff interaction. I also confirmed what working from home policies are in place, and at the lower tiers, that's occurring on an infrequent basis. So staffers are all in the office, and there might be those one-off situations where a team member may be working from home."

McKibbin told councillors it was her preference to have staff in the building, referring to the fact that cases of COVID-19 in the county have been relatively low.

"I also want to make very clear all the decisions we make are based on the best information that we have at this time," she said. "So we know that things are evolving and changing, but at this current moment, based on all the safety procedures and protocols we have in place, my personal preference is to have staff remain, as long as we can, in the workplace."

Councillors agreed with McKibbin's recommendation.

"I am in complete agreement with the CAO," said Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell. "I do not see any reason at this time that we would be sending staff to work again. We have put a lot of money as a municipality to make sure all the safeguards are in place for staff. It's a large building, everybody has their



Minden Hills councillors discussed whether or not township employees should be working from home during an Oct. 22 special meeting of council. /Screenshot

own space. We have all stations, even bathrooms, individually separated for people, so I would not be in agreement with the ECG suggestion."

The emergency control group consists mostly of township department heads and senior staff, as well as Schell and Mayor Brent Devolin.

"So basically it's predominantly staff and two members of council," Devolin said. "I want to commend the CAO. Managing and making these big decisions is, in my mind, is clearly the decision of council, which is why she requested this meeting, so these types of decisions clearly come back and that all members of council are involved."

Councillor Bob Carter said he did not support sending staff home at this time.

"I think the key decision here is, where is there benefit in making a change and does the municipality and the public benefit from having this in place?" Carter said. "Health and safety always trumps virtually everything else, but there doesn't appear to be an imminent health and safety issue here, because we've put into place parameters and we've put into place procedures to maintain the health and safety of our staff. So I'm having a difficult time in seeing why we would go ahead with something like this."

Another portion of McKibbin's report dealt with estab-

“

There doesn't appear to be an imminent health and safety issue here.

— COUNCILLOR BOB CARTER

”

lishing a work-from-home policy to govern such situations in general – in the case of a new child, for instance – and not just situations related to the ongoing pandemic. A revised draft of that policy will come back to council at a subsequent meeting.

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:
October 29 – Council Meeting
November 12 – Committee of the Whole Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in December.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenHills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenHills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

**A MESSAGE FROM THE MINDEN HILLS
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

October is Fire Safety Month Encourage Your Family to Get Involved
Take this opportunity to discuss fire safety with your family.

Create An Escape Route – Create and practice your escape plan with your family from every room in the house. Practice staying low to the floor and checking for hot doors using the back of your hand. It's just like a routine school fire drill – but in your home.

Designate a meeting place outside of the house and talk with your children on what to do if a fire were to happen.

You may be intimidated to bring up such a serious topic with your kids, but this will help your family be more confident and prepared in the event of an emergency.

Smoke Alarms – These are still a very important addition to your home. Smoke alarms are widely available and inexpensive. Install a smoke alarm on every level of your home, and every bedroom, and test it monthly.

Change the battery, (if available) twice a year, set it up with changing the clocks, this fall it is Sunday Nov 2, 2020

Alternate Heaters – Make sure there is ample space around any portable heating unit. Anything that could catch fire should be at least one meter (three feet) away. Inspect your chimney annually and use fire screens to help keep any fires in the fireplace.

If you need more information please contact your local Fire Department

RECYCLING TIP OF THE WEEK

Your recycling is sorted by hand by other people. To keep them safe and make their job easier, please make sure your recyclables are rinsed and empty and never place hazardous waste (like propane tanks or chemicals) in the Blue Box program.

We're Hiring!

The Township is currently looking for individuals to join our team in the following positions:

- Accounts Payable/Accounting Clerk (Finance)
- Planning Technician (Planning)
- Casual Operators (Community Services)
- Building Inspectors/MLEO's (Building/Bylaw)

Please visit our website at www.mindenHills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for complete job postings, descriptions and for instructions on how to apply.

A win for the Haliburton County Folk Society

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

These highlands are alive with the sound of live music, and the Haliburton County Folk Society has been awarded for setting the stage to ensure the show goes on.

The folk society, which has a mandate to foster an appreciation of and participation in folk music in Haliburton County, was awarded the Setting the Stage award, alongside co-winner Hillside Festival, as part of the Folk Music Ontario Awards presented last weekend. The Setting the Stage award, established in 2018, is given to a club, venue or festival in recognition of their outstanding contributions to Canada's live music industry.

"I have to assume that part of this was the fact that we are a very successful, very active and I think very innovative presenter in such a small, rural community," said folk society president Thom Lambert. "We all take it for granted, when we're in the Haliburton Highlands, we just assume there's theatre every week, music every week, dance performances four times a year and a sculpture forest and two thriving galleries and then you start looking – you don't have to look very far away to realize communities that are 10 times the size of us don't put on half as many presented art performances in a year."

Lambert said reviewing the nomination, which was written by past-president Barrie Martin, the work the folk society has done is "pretty astonishing for a small county," presenting at least 25 live performances per year, including an annual concert series, the winter folk camp, and monthly open stages. The latter, Lambert said, has been an incredibly important part of what the folk society does in how the events support local musicians with at least half a dozen of those who got their start at open stage becoming professional or semi-professional musicians and bands. Besides performing opportunities, the folk society has also supported local musicians with recording subsidies, CD production and sales, loan and rental of sound equipment and professional development. Lambert also said it's "heartening" to see the list of organiza-

tions and partnerships the folk society has made to help bring live music to events through initiatives including performances, funding or sound equipment and technical support.

The Haliburton County Folk Society has worked since 1996 to build a community of music locally, and Lambert acknowledged those who have done and are doing that work.

"There was a time when it was very, very difficult for the folk society to maintain, to keep its head above water, and these folks never gave up," he said. "Some of these people have been plugging away for 20 years now, since the beginning of the folk society, and I really have to give it to those folks, they've had a vision for live music in this community and have really never given up."

Lambert also made note of the crucial funding support the folk society receives from Canadian Heritage, which he said allows the group to be creative in terms of music it presents in the county, and also to keep ticket prices to a reasonable price

in a rural community.

Despite the challenges of physical distancing and crowd restrictions during the pandemic, the folk society has adapted to continue promoting opportunities and bringing performers and audiences together by hosting online live streaming concerts accessed by viewers at home during the provincial lockdown; creating the music instruction subsidy program to support the music community during a difficult time and moving open stage events to an outdoor venue, at Haliburton Highlands Brewing, in warmer months.

The Folk Music Ontario Awards, typically announced annually at the Folk Music Ontario conference, were presented in a ceremony online on Oct. 23 gathering restrictions currently in place.

For more information about the Haliburton County Folk Society, visit: haliburtonfolk.com.



Strolling along

A pedestrian and pooch are reflected in the Gull River traversing Minden on the Riverwalk on Oct. 23 in Minden. Cooling temperatures during autumn have done little to discourage users from taking to the Riverwalk. / DARREN LUM Staff



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Final destination plan to come to council in November

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

The County of Haliburton is a step closer to having a completed destination management plan.

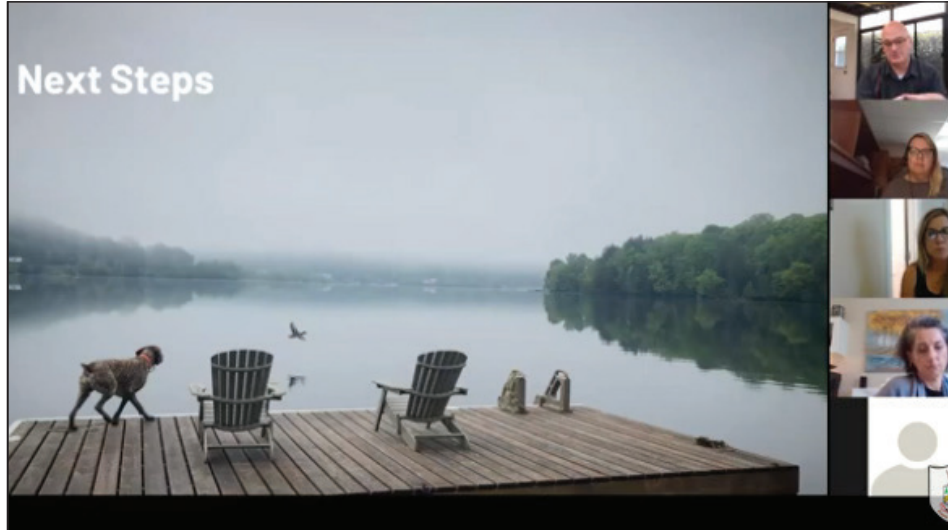
The county hired Vancouver-based firm MMGY NextFactor in 2019 to compile the plan, which looks at ways to develop the Haliburton Highlands as tourism destination and also to market it in a more widespread fashion. The process has included a number of public input sessions with county residents, officials and stakeholders, including focus groups and town hall meetings.

On Oct. 19, Greg Oates of MMGY NextFactor facilitated a visioning workshop on the draft plan, that workshop taking place via online conferencing app Zoom amid the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

"The plan that you'll see today is a result of all the feedback MMGY NextFactor has received during the course of the project," said county tourism director Amanda Virtanen.

"Ultimately, tourism is a byproduct of vibrant communities and a destination management plan captures all of the ways that tourism touches on the elements that define a vibrant community," said Nicole Whiting, the executive director of the Ontario's Highlands Tourism Organization, of which the Haliburton Highlands is part. "I have 100 per cent confidence this process is going to position Haliburton Highlands for a solid recovery [from the COVID-19 pandemic]." Whiting added that financial support and resources are easier to come by with a destination management plan in place.

"If anything, we've really realized how im-



About 25 people tuned in to a visioning workshop on the draft destination management plan for the Haliburton Highlands on Oct. 19 via Zoom. The plan, which is to be presented to county council in November, looks at developing and marketing the area more as a tourism destination. /Screenshot

portant tourism is to the economic and community development of all of our communities, of all sizes," Oates said of the pandemic. As for the community feedback his firm has received regarding the county, "Most everyone agrees there's a lot of value in creating a more diverse and robust year-round visitor economy."

About 25 stakeholders took part in the workshop, with Oates emphasizing nothing was definitive at that point. He'd developed four strategic goals for the Haliburton Highlands. "It kind of defines due north for how we're thinking," he said.

Those strategic goals are to optimize the year-round economy; diversify destination

development; enhance the destination brand; and strengthening community collaboration.

Some suggestions for optimizing the year-round economy included working with regional and provincial governments to create a workforce development initiative for the tourism and hospitality industries, developing a campaign to promote tourism as a career, and addressing local bylaws that may hinder tourism, community and economic development. One participant brought up the example of bylaws prohibiting yurts or tiny homes, which are seen by many as a cool, alternative form of lodging.

As for developing the destination, Oates said this didn't necessarily mean brick-and-

mortar construction projects, although it could include those.

"It's developing the destination in terms of connecting it and providing an itinerary and the content to support that, to inspire people to get out and different things in the destination," he said. Some suggestions for diversification included expanding evening activities, business hours and events; developing partnerships between accommodators, tour operators and events to create more integrated visitor experiences; and developing and enhancing festival and event facilities using existing outdoor spaces.

As for enhancing the Haliburton Highlands brand, suggestions included expanding the website to show a wider cross-section of activities and more "holding hands with visitors," in terms of helping them navigate their way through the county. Among other suggestions was expanded marketing efforts within Ontario to make the Haliburton Highlands more of a household name.

On strengthening community collaboration, developing a resident sentiment survey to benchmark and track local attitudes about the tourism industry and its impact was a suggestion. "If how a community works together drives destination performance, then it's important to hear what the community is saying," Oates said. Another suggestion was an annual tourism industry event open to all residents to celebrate successes.

Participants asked questions and provided feedback on the draft plan. The final version is expected to be presented to Haliburton County on Nov. 23. The plan is a \$60,000 project for the county.



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IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

The Times

DAVID ZILSTRA,
Publisher and Ad Director,
david.zilstra@gmail.com

JENN WATT, Managing Editor,
jenn@haliburtonpress.com

JENNIFER MCEATHRON, Admin
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

DEBBIE COMER, Circulation,
debbie@haliburtonpress.com

CHAD INGRAM, Reporter,
chad@haliburtonpress.com

DARREN LUM, Reporter,
darren@haliburtonpress.com

SUE TIFFIN, Reporter,
sue@haliburtonpress.com

KAREN LONDON,
Production Co-ordinator
karen@haliburtonpress.com

LAURA CHOWZUN,
Production

STACEY POTLIVO,
Production

LAURA SMITH, Sales,
laura@haliburtonpress.com

PAUL BANELOPOULOS, Sales
paul@haliburtonpress.com

PAT LEWIS, Inside Sales
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

2 IGA Road, Box 97
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0
• 705-286-1288 • Fax 705-286-4768
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The face mask police

WORKING IN media during the COVID-19 pandemic has meant, in large part, days dominated by the subject of the coronavirus for nearly eight months now.

That is true whether you're a national news anchor or a community newspaper reporter. The pandemic is *the* story across the globe. It's all-encompassing and never-ending. It touches every aspect of our lives, and will continue to for quite some time.

With all the many things there are to write about when it comes to the virus, tattling on people, whether they be politicians or otherwise, for not wearing or seemingly not wearing face masks when they are supposed to be, is a stupid and petty waste of time.

On the national front, there was one such story this week, originating from a photo of federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu sitting in Pearson Airport without a mask on. Hajdu is sitting by herself beside her suitcase, an open paper bag nearby, and has said she only removes her mask to eat or drink in such places, where mandatory mask requirements are in place.

The story was very similar to one about then-Conservative leader Andrew Scheer that was published in July, also stemming from a photo taken at Pearson, which showed Scheer without a face mask. He was also by himself in the airport, also eating at the time.

Is this where we're at? Raging about photos of politicians trying to eat a sad, solitary airport sandwich before catching their flight? This in no way serves the greater good, and serving the greater good is supposed to be a baseline requirement for any news story.

Locally, back near the beginning of the pandemic, I received a number of calls and messages at the *Times* office from residents

who were upset, either that businesses did not have what they considered to be adequate protocols in place, that employees at X, Y or Z place were not wearing masks (they were not yet mandatory), etc.

My response to each of those messages was



CHAD INGRAM
Reporter

if the resident felt uncomfortable, then they should voice their concerns to the business owner, the health unit, or avoid that business altogether. It's not the place of the paper to embark on some kind of naming and shaming campaign. This time is stressful and difficult enough for us all without media outlets turning into the face mask police, nitpicking at any perceived violation of a public health regulation.

Real, substantive violations will be met with real consequences, as with the case of a Minden business charged under provincial legislation last month.

As for politicians at airports, let them have their sandwiches and eat them, too.

Kwarky



"You didn't tell your mom my costume?"

How to miss a duck properly

RECENTLY, I was duck hunting with a person I was mentoring when he missed a duck that should have been an easy shot.

It was a lone mallard that was cupped over the decoys at 25 yards and my friend missed it cleanly all three times.

He immediately proclaimed that he missed because he had not practiced shooting a lot this year and he had panicked. As a veteran waterfowler, I was horrified.

For what he illustrated was a fundamental rookie mistake. He did not know how to properly miss a duck.

Since he was relatively young and new at the sport, I thought I could help him by missing the next three passes. That way, I thought, I could show him real life examples of how to miss a duck properly in field conditions.

Not a lot of guys will do this for young hunters, but I thought, if I don't show him how to miss a duck, how the heck is he ever supposed to know how to do it properly?

Over those three passes I taught the kid a lot.

On pass number one, for instance, after a trio of wood duck had departed unscathed, he learned that the best thing a hunter can do is buy economy-grade shells.

"So you're saying that the cheaper the shell the more you can blame it for the miss?" he reiterated.

I had barely finished nodding when a lone mallard hen buzzed the decoys, which gave me the opportunity to miss again for the purposes of my young friend's education. This time I blamed the duck for being too stupid to know it was actually dead.

"Too stupid?" my friend asked incredulously.

"They can be like that," I said.

Later that morning, while my buddy was pouring us coffee from a Thermos, I intentionally missed a lone goose with three shots. Not a lot of guys would have gone to all that effort, but I thought that would ensure my friend learned the lesson well.

But, God bless him, he was eager to learn.

"How the heck could anyone miss such an easy shot?" he yelled. "And three times too?"

I then went on to explain that these misses

were due to a combination of a shift in tectonic plates, a stutter in the Earth's rotation and a quick and undetectable (to us) gust of wind high above, which all conspired to ruin three otherwise perfectly executed shots.

"Plus," I added, "that goose was also stupid."

For the next 15 minutes or so, my hunting buddy let all of this sink in. Some people learn by asking questions or by memorizing processes, formulas, or

phrases. But this guy apparently learned things by shaking his head and muttering the word "unbelievable."

Sadly, however, we did not get a chance to see if this worked for him because he hit the next two ducks in a row — which was frustrating for me, since I was still in teaching mode.

But just as I thought I was a failure as a duck hunting mentor he confessed something.

"You know," he explained. "I use cheap shells, and there was a combination of a shift in tectonic plates, a stutter in the Earth's rotation and a quick and undetectable (to us) gust of wind high above, all of which conspired to ruin my shots. Plus, both those ducks were too stupid to know they were dead...."

"But you hit them," I said.

"Yes," he conceded. "But I was aiming at the sky...."



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Worry over Frost Centre lands

IT'S OFFICIAL. The "For Sale" sign is up at the Frost Centre on Highway 35 just south of Dorset.

Workers were out early last Saturday morning assembling a huge sign offering the 40-acre historic site as available to buy. The property is listed by the CRBE (Coldwell Banker Richard Ellis) Group, a worldwide commercial real estate company.

A check of various CBRE websites did not reveal any listing details, like price and conditions, but perhaps they are still being drawn up.

The Frost Centre lands, and presumably its dozen or more empty and rotting buildings, apparently have been for sale for the last decade. But this is the first time, apparently, that the property has been listed with a real estate company that will work actively to find a buyer.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

I say apparently because the Ontario government never has told taxpayers, who have paid hundreds of thousands of hard-earned tax dollars to keep the empty places heated and lighted while its exterior rots, much about what is happening.

For example, as a working journalist I asked Laurie Scott's office twice over the last two months for information on what is happening with the Frost Centre lands. I have never had the courtesy of a reply.

Also, a friend who is a taxpayer on St. Nora Lake where the centre is located, has asked Scott's office for information. No reply.

Scott is MPP for the area, as well as the cabinet minister responsible for dealing with the Frost Centre.

A major worry of many people is what a new owner will do with the Frost Centre. They worry that it might become another party palace resort (hello Trump International!) destroying yet another natural and heritage resource.

There is no need for weeping and gnashing of teeth over what might happen to the hiking and canoe/kayak trails on the Frost lands. Carol Moffatt, mayor of Algonquin Highlands Township, tells me the township has a long-term agreement with the province that allows it to operate its trails system.

The overall Frost Centre area is huge, covering roughly 26,000 hectares stretching far east and northeast toward Algonquin Park. The 40 acres up for sale were severed from the larger package some years back and cover the area surrounding the buildings on Highway 35.

The province apparently is trying to do something to protect heritage and natural resource aspects of the Frost Centre. Again, "apparently" because the government has not told us what those protections might be and how it intends to see that they are accepted and observed by any buyer.

Exchanges of property can include heritage and conservation easements, which legally bind a new owner to maintain and protect the heritage and conservation aspects of the property.

Mayor Moffatt said she believes there are heritage easements on parts of some of the buildings, but does not have the details.

That is interesting because it could mean that the easements would prevent a buyer from bulldozing all the buildings to put up a sky-piercing resort and marina.

However, there are ways around easements. For instance, a building with a heritage-protected fireplace used to warm Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada's first prime minister, could be demolished if the fireplace was left standing and incorporated into the new building. It could be incorporated into a barroom or a pantry and still satisfy the easement.

So, the 40-acre Frost Centre site on St. Nora Lake might undergo dramatic change, but at least Algonquin Highlands' terrific trail and camping system will continue. It has been increasingly popular this year as more people seek distance during the COVID pandemic.

The tragedy of the Frost Centre is that it likely never again will be what it once was for the people of Ontario – a natural resources centre offering education and experience in understanding nature and how we should live as a part of it.

Leslie Frost, the Ontario premier for whom the Frost Centre was named, felt strongly about the importance of education in understanding and protecting our natural environment.

"The government believes that the best approach to the conservation and administration of our natural resources is to be found in education," he once said.

Good words, unfortunately not taken to heart by his successors.

Vitamin N

LAST WEEK I had the privilege of attending the grand opening of the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve in the Haliburton area. This 500 acres of land was donated to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust by Leopoldina and Margaret Dobrzensky. Both Leopoldina and Margaret spoke during the opening ceremony. Leopoldina, who is in her 90s, stole the show when she said: In these challenging times we need something called Vitamin N. She was referring to nature, and stating that we all need a good dose of it on a regular basis.

Her comment has stuck with me. The benefits of being in nature is something that I've known for most of my life. When I was a city dweller I didn't always get a daily dose. Now that I live in the country a day doesn't go by that I don't get outside. Sometimes I get out there and I don't want to come back inside.

To demonstrate just how amazing nature is I thought I'd set up this experiment for you. Even those of you reading this from your big city home can participate because nature is everywhere. Here goes:

1. Pull up a beautiful wilderness scene on your device (or open a book that has a photo).
2. Stare at the photo. Look for and take in as much beauty as you can. Get lost in the colours and the textures.
3. Go outside and stand in a forest or a field or next to a tree.
4. Look around and take in the beauty. If what you have available is a tree or a plant

or even a rock, stare at that.

5. Take a deep breath and take in all of the smells that you can.

6. Reach out and touch the nature that is around you.

7. Listen to the sounds that you hear (this may not work very well if you're in the city unless it's 5 a.m. when you try this).

There is a huge difference between looking at a screen and getting outside. So many more of our senses are fired up when we're outside, especially when we're in a natural environment. The more that our senses are used the better. Think about all the various parts of the brain that must be working to decipher all of the information coming through the sights, the smells, and the sounds. The nerve endings in our fingertips light up

when we touch all of the various textures and that information goes to the brain. It's all just so healthy! And it's calming in the most basic of ways. It can't be recreated in a photo, a video or even audio recording. Sure an image of nature is better than nothing but it can't replace the real thing.

Make getting your daily dose of Vitamin N a priority. Combine it with your daily dose of caffeine. That is my idea of a perfect start to a day.

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness



Tammy Nash took a moment to reflect on the remaining fall colours on Thursday, Oct. 22 at Maple Lake.

Non-Fiction Pick - October



The Home Edit Life by Clea Shearer and Joanna Teplin

When at home or on the go, you don't have to live like a minimalist to feel happy and calm. The Home Edit mentality is all about embracing your life – whether you're a busy mom, a roommate living with three, or someone who's always travelling for work. You just need to know how to set up a system that works for you.

In the next phase of the home organizing craze, Clea Shearer and Joanna Teplin go beyond the pantry and bookshelf to show you how to contain the chaos in all aspects of your life from office space to travelling bags to pet supplies and holiday storage. Take quizzes and get to know your organizing style, tailor it to your family's lifestyle, and lead the low-guilt life as you apply more genius ideas to every aspect of your life.

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Provincial funding flows to youth hub

by **JENN WATT**
Editor

Mental health supports established for the county's youth through the Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub will be receiving base funding from the province, and new funding for staff, the Ministry of Health confirmed.

On Oct. 21, the government announced \$24.3 million in funding for various mental health services for children and youth across Ontario, setting aside \$5.8 million for youth wellness teams.

The Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub, which provides services to young people from ages 12 to 25, was one of 10 established as part of a three-year pilot program, said a media spokesperson for the ministry.

"The government is now flowing base funding to the youth wellness hub sites in order to move them to a more mature state where they will have a permanent mental health and addictions service team on site, the youth wellness team," the spokesperson said. Like the other existing youth wellness hub sites, Haliburton will be receiving a portion of the new funding to staff a core clinical team, which will continue to work in partnership with the network of local agencies supporting the hub."

The specific financial figure allocated to Haliburton was not released at press time.

Marg Cox, executive director of Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth, and Parents, which is a partner on the youth hub, said she was pleased that Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott had kept the promise she made while in Haliburton for the

youth hub launch.

"I think the youth wellness hub opening back in March [2020] was an incredible event because of the parents and youth that shared their stories, the youth that created artwork and played music and showed Minister Elliott the value of youth hubs in our community," Cox said.

She also noted when the *Haliburton Echo* had asked Elliott during a question period about whether ongoing funding would be provided, the minister had said it would – and Cox said she was happy that has come to fruition.

Although programming at the youth hub has not been going precisely to plan, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which descended on the province shortly after the launch event, Cox said they've found ways to continue providing service.

"One of the things that we've been starting to do is physical outreach in various communities in Minden, in Wilberforce, in Cardiff, as well as outdoors in Haliburton at the skateboard park," she said. "And, at the youth hub, we've continued to run services by appointment. So, if somebody needed to see our nurse practitioner or someone wanted to attend our sexual health clinic, if somebody wanted to see somebody for counselling, all of those appointments are still going on at the hub."

Point in Time is in the process of assessing whether informal, non-clinical gatherings can be held that would be COVID-safe. Currently, get-togethers are hosted virtually.

To find out more about the Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub, go to <https://www.pointintime.ca/youth/haliburton-youth-wellness-hub/> or find them @HaliCountyYouthHub on Instagram.

Haliburton County Youth Hub - Programs, Services and Resources

Programs and Events

• Virtual Art Hour 3:30 Tuesdays on Zoom. Bring whatever materials you would like to use to explore our experiences in social distancing.

• Virtual Coffee and Tea hour- This will soon be also offered in the adult-ed classroom on their smart board 1:15 Thursdays on Zoom. A safe space for youth to come and enjoy some company.

• Share and Care at the Haliburton Youth Wellness Hub on Tuesdays 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., and Wednesdays 12:20 to 2:30 p.m. and on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. check in, toiletries, masks, snacks.

• Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Skills Group. Six-week group delivered by Point in Time counsellors where you will learn skills to help cope with life stressors and mental health challenges (virtually over Zoom). Every Wednesday 4:30 to 6 p.m. Starting Oct. 28, 2020

• Mobile Share and Care, where we will be coming to a community near you! We will be coming to Haliburton skatepark, Minden skatepark and community centre, Wilberforce community centre, as well as Cardiff. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to see where we are going to be each week.

• GSA Open Mic Night for anyone who would like to share their art, music, poetry, etc. Anyone is welcome, all you have to do is message us for the Zoom link and we will send it to you.

• Community Advisory Assembly Nov. 19 6:30-8:30 – register by Nov. 17 at 11:59 p.m.

email haliburtonhub@pointintime.ca

• This event will look at how far the Hub has come, but most importantly, it will create a path forward with youth at the centre. Learn more about the Hub, how to access what you need and how you can be involved. Together we will explore tangible opportunities to participate in making the Hub the best it can be!

Services

• Housing Supports- City of Kawartha Lakes Housing Help, rental listings

• Sexual Health- Kelsey Young is our nurse practitioner who can assist in answering any questions related to sexual and primary health care. Some areas that she can help with include birth control, prescriptions, sexual health information, counselling, trans health care services and primary health care

• Mental Health - counselling in person and virtually, group work, psychiatry consultation available.

• Employment Supports - Fleming College's Fleming Crew can support with resume writing, job searching, job readiness, educational upgrading.

Follow us on Facebook@ Hali County Youth Hub and on Instagram@ halicountyouthhub

Visit us at www.pointintime.ca

Contact us at 705-457-2727 or by cell 705-306-5199 (text or call)

- Provided by Point in Time
(abbreviated for print)



Hitting the rink

Above, a player for the Red team turns to the neutral zone during 55-plus hockey league action on Friday, Oct. 23 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. The Black team beat the Red team 5-2. The league has 50 players registered and the oldest is close to 70./DARREN LUM Staff

Left, the Red and Black team faced off for the game.

Hatchery hurting financially amid pandemic

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The Haliburton Fish Hatchery, operated by the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association, is facing some financially tight times amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“The COVID [pandemic] has stopped us from our fundraising activities,” association president Eric Christensen told the *Times*. Chief among those activities are the association’s fundraising dinners, including its popular wild game dinner, which have been cancelled this year. Each dinner typically raises between \$5,000 and \$10,000. The wild game dinner that was initially scheduled for spring had been postponed until the fall, and has now been cancelled completely, with the association selling off the wild game meat it had purchased for the event.

“There’s been basically no additional funding support from

the provincial government,” Christensen said, explaining the hatchery doesn’t meet the criteria for any of the existing COVID-19-related government assistance programs. “So we’re basically on our own.”

The pandemic has also meant that the hatchery this year will not be stocking Haliburton Gold, a species of lake trout found in only a few lakes in Haliburton County and designated as a heritage species. Normally, Haliburton Gold eggs are harvested with the assistance of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, the fish maturing inside the hatchery.

“The MNR are not going out in the field at all,” Christensen said. “So that killed our egg harvest of Haliburton Gold this fall.”

As Christensen explained, the ministry is still sending 9,000 regular lake trout eggs to the hatchery. “So we will still have fish in the hatchery to feed,” he said.

However, the receiving of those eggs has been put on hold, as the association deals with aging, problematic pumps at the hatchery. There are three wells on the property, each of

which has a pump. The pumps are 30 years old. One has broken and is being replaced, and at least a second is on the fritz. Each pump will cost about \$2,600 to replace.

“The only [regular] fundraiser we have going right now is Catch the Ace,” Christensen said. With a county resident winning Catch the Ace last week, it will likely be a couple of weeks before a new lottery starts up, he said.

The association is also doing a raffle for a \$1,000 cash prize, the winner of which will be drawn during the annual general meeting on Nov. 22. Tickets can be purchased at Outdoors Plus and Canoe FM in Haliburton Village or at the hatchery at 6712 County Road 1, which is currently open reduced hours, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. “We’ve cut back everything because of financial constraints,” Christensen said.

Raffle tickets can also be purchased for home delivery by calling association member Tim LaRiviere at 705-457-1971 or emailing tlariviere29@gmail.com.

Legion supports health care

HHHS Foundation chair Eric Recalla, right, accepts a donation of \$13,500 from Royal Canadian Legion, Minden Branch 636. Members Jim Ross (president), Chris Burton (poppy campaign chair), Clint Brown (poppy campaign), and Paul Norry (treasurer) presented the cheque. Funds raised, due to the generosity of the community in support of the Legion’s Poppy Campaign, will contribute to new vital signs monitors for Minden and Haliburton emergency departments, and a new patient stretcher for the Minden emergency department. HHHS Foundation is grateful to Minden Legion for their many contributions to the community, and their continued recognition and support of health care. /Photo submitted



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Rowan Pettinella loved the McCutcheon Halloween circuit, requesting to go around the loop more than once. Visitors to the event had one hour privately booked to explore the skeleton scenes in a COVID-19 restriction-friendly setting. / Submitted



McCutcheons set the path to a Halloween tradition

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

While living during a time of pandemic has been worrisome, it has provided unique challenges for the McCutcheon family. Teenagers Tecwyn and Tathan have a neurogenetic disorder called Angelman Syndrome, which results in medical complexity that has left them and their parents, Sean and Bethan, always considering what the future might look like. This year has urged them to take more action in planning for that future.

“What does it look like for our family if the boys get sick?” said Bethan, and then, listing other questions that have been plaguing the family’s thoughts: “How would COVID react not only physically with their bodies but neurologically? Will we lose seizure control? Will they regress with gross and fine motor skills? Will we be able to pick up on symptoms quick enough so we can get them the medical intervention they need? How does it look for our family if my husband and I get sick? What about the boys? This has made us have a look at our lives and if we are ready for the next chapter. Are the boys sorted if something happens to us? The answer was clear. No. We saw what happened in Markham and in nursing homes across the province. It was heartbreaking. So we have listed our house for sale and now focused on building the boys their forever home [on a separate farmland in Minden]. We want to get them sorted now while we are healthy and able.” The new property is one that has more space for more activities and is closer to town, making it more accessible to and by the community and Tathan and Tecwyn’s friends.

Halloween, said Bethan, typically a beloved holiday for the McCutcheons, is also layered for her family.

“It’s about the boys in their community making positive connections,” she said. “It’s about watching for and celebrating independence such as the boys walking to the door on their own, figuring out how to open their own bags, holding the bag open long enough for the treat to be put in, seeing them take the initiative to sign thank you without a reminder. It’s about seeing our kids highly motivated to do physio. It’s about the many laughs Halloween can bring by being silly and it’s about the pile of candy dumped on the kitchen table at the end of the night.”

This year, of course, would be different.

“We won’t be going trick or treating in the traditional sense, and so Tecwyn and Tathan won’t have that community connection,” said Bethan. “It weighed on my heart. So I had a think of how can I connect the boys with their friends,



Madelyn Walker and Kennedy Gill had fun seeing the scenes at the McCutcheon Halloween event, and also posing for photos at the Skeleton Showcase sites set up around a walking trail in the woods./Submitted photo

and with the community, and have it be COVID respectful. And most importantly how can it be accessible to everyone?”

Just recently, Tecwyn had been granted a dream from the Sunshine Foundation, a charity that fulfills a request by kids and youth with severe physical disability or life-threatening illness, and he had requested a customized trail system in his backyard.

“The boys have 100 acres of forest on their land, but sadly Tecwyn had only seen .25 km of his land as he would have to navigate through the bush,” said Bethan. “He wasn’t able physically and mentally to go further. He would become very overwhelmed. So he asked for pathways to be cleared for him. The Sunshine Foundation granted his request and Ken from Happy Trails came and put trails in for Tecwyn.”

The trails opened up the forest to Tecwyn, and also an opportunity for a Halloween event, in which friends of the family could sign up to decorate a site along the pathways as part of the first Skeleton Showcase along Bag of Bones Boulevard contest, in hopes of winning a \$100 gift certificate to one of two local businesses, donated by the family and a family friend. The McCutcheons supplied a skeleton or two which they set up at each site outside weeks prior to entrants participating, and on an assigned day and time, participants were scheduled to come with their own props to create a Halloween scene.

“Then other families could sign up to walk through and check out the Skeleton Showcases,” said Bethan. “This way

see page 11

Connections can be made even during pandemic

from page 10

no families participating in the contest or doing the walk-through were overlapping, to protect their social bubbles. And voila, we had a COVID-respectful Halloween event."

Response to the event was quick and enthusiastic, with seven decorating spots filling up quickly. A hunting scene, beach scene, bathing skeleton scene, campfire scenes, delivery person scene, and graveyard and zombie scenes came together within hour-long time slots, with contestants keeping in mind weather, and environment-and-wildlife friendly props.

"Contestants came at staggered days and times so we actually saw it grow," said Bethan. "You'd walk through one day and there were two skeleton showcases and then next day there was another and so on. So that was super exciting. Our friends are so creative and have such a great sense of humour. All the displays were amazing."

Bethan said the family will absolutely host the event again next year, and is hoping to support more local businesses with more gift certificates being offered and more opportunities for participants to win.

"We are so excited to offer this Halloween event to our friends," she said. "It's good for the soul to get outdoors and have a good laugh. We love that families will now include this in their new traditions for Halloween. It has such potential to grow into something ... I hope it will become a Halloween tradition for our friends and community that they look forward to. That it gives their families a stronger connection planning and decorating and all the fun that naturally comes with being part of this event. This all makes the connection of the community and Tecwyn and Tathan even stronger."

A walk-through for the event gave people of all ages the opportunity for a private scheduled visit in an outdoor space, seeing the prepared sites – some wore costumes, some posed for selfies.

"There is fun to be had during a world pandemic," said Bethan. "We just have to give it a think. COVID has the power to completely isolate but we as a community won't let that happen. And I think this event proved that."



Jack and Meg Walker and Jessa Thompson celebrated a win as the Judge's Favourite with the beach scene they created at the McCutcheon Halloween Skeleton Showcase event. /Submitted/ Submitted



Kennedy Gill and Madelyn Walker had fun seeing the scenes at the McCutcheon Halloween event, and also posing for photos at the Skeleton Showcase sites set up around a walking trail in the woods./ Submitted photo

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Donations needed for SIRCH coat drive

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

No one should have to decide between staying warm this winter and paying for rent and food.

That's the sentiment behind the SIRCH Community Services' fifth annual Share the Warmth Coat Drive, which takes warm clothing donations such as winter coats, boots, toques, vests, snow pants, mitts and gloves to give to individuals in need.

SIRCH's coat drive co-ordinator Rebecca Anderson said the drive takes away some of the stress related to choosing between buying winter clothing and paying for essentials such as rent and food.

"It can be extremely stressful to spend what you have left financially just to keep your family warm when you're not sure if you're going to be employed in six months. What is the economy going to look like and will I be able to keep my job and all the other stressors," she said.

Last year's drive resulted in a massive giveaway of winter clothing with 335 coats, 311 gloves, 291 toques and 44 pairs of boots distributed.

Drop off clean articles of clothing from Nov. 1 to Nov. 12 at either Dollo's Foodland, Easton's Valu-Mart or St Paul's Anglican Church in Minden, or Haliburton Foodland,

Todd's Independent or Algonquin Outfitters in Haliburton.

Donations must be clean without noticeable smell, and lacking rips and tears.

As part of COVID-19 protocols, all donations are expected to be cleaned before donating. Place winter wear in plastic bags before donation if possible.

Anderson said this cause is near to her heart.

"I feel like the work we are doing is meaningful and it's even more meaningful to me because I grew up here and know some of the people receiving help," she said. "In a lot of ways I was a person receiving help as well so it feels so good to give back. It kind of feels full circle."

A few years ago while she was in Grade 12 at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, she wanted to play hockey for the Highland Storm. Without means to register and purchase equipment to play, she was given an assist to make her dream a reality, which started with help with an application for money from a charitable organization to initiate the process to receive funds to cover her expenses.

There will be two giveaways on the same day, Saturday, Nov. 14

One is in Minden at St. Paul's Anglican Church, located at 19 Invergordon Avenue from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the other is at SIRCH (downstairs) in Haliburton, located



Share The Warmth co-ordinator Rebecca Anderson posts a promotional poster for the coat drive on the door of a Haliburton retailer last week. The SIRCH-led initiative gathers gently used winter wear to give to those in need in Haliburton County. / **DARREN LUM** Staff

at 49 Maple Avenue from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Once the two giveaway days are held in Haliburton County, the remaining clothing will go to Bancroft and be given away at the Thrift Warehouse.

For more information about Share the Warmth, call SIRCH at 705-457-1742 or email rebecca_anderson@sirch.on.ca.

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		2		5				7
8	1				4			
2								8
	7			1		4	3	
			4	9		5		
3			6					
		7			3		8	1
	2	6	9		5			

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 14

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



Bridge work continues

Detour signs have been erected in downtown Minden, and residents can expect delays and lane closures as the Sunnybrook bridge is rehabilitated during the next couple of months. / **DARREN LUM** Staff

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Poetry festival reaching out to regional community

by MICHAEL RILEY
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A poetry festival that is usually celebrated in person has been modified into a virtual celebration of poets from central Ontario and abroad due to COVID-19. The Word is Wild Literary Festival, created by Bancroft area poet Kathy Figueroa back in 2014, has adapted to the pandemic era and now presents its participants showcasing their poetic talents via YouTube and Facebook.

Figueroa created and staged the first Word is Wild Literary Festival in 2014 in Maynooth, in which a plethora of creative artists from poets to songwriters, locally and from out of town, participated.

“It’s vital that a person’s talent and time spent on a project be recognized. It’s important for the morale of the creative person as well as providing a source of income which helps enable poets, artists, and other talented and expressive folks to keep contributing to the wonderful tapestry of Canadian culture,” she says.

This year, with the pandemic to consider, Figueroa decided that an online festival would be a better idea.

“Also, visualizing masked poets and authors reading their work to a live audience, with their faces partially hidden and voices somewhat muffled, presented a picture of a situation that didn’t look like it would go over well. There was also the matter of whether or not anyone would even want to attend an event where there was even the slightest chance of possibly contracting a virus that could make you extremely ill and even cause your demise, or that of loved ones at home,” she says.

Figueroa says she usually starts planning for her small literary festivals early in the year, often in the late winter. Consequently, she had already submitted the necessary paperwork for this event before COVID-19 hit full force, including funding from the League of Canadian Poets and the Canadian Council for the Arts to allow bill bissett (who spells his name without capital letters) and Honey Novick to travel up to the region and get paid for their participation. Novick and bissett’s online poetry presentation was the first to be posted.

“When COVID-19 skewered plans for a live gathering, I was then notified that I could still hold an online event, which meant that Honey and bill wouldn’t suffer financially from a pandemic-caused cancellation,” she says.

Award-winning poet bill bissett is also a musician and painter, while Honey Novick is an award-winning singer, songwriter, voice teacher and poet. Their video for the festival was recorded by Henry Martinuk of Chernozym Video and was broadcast on YouTube and the festival’s Facebook page on Sept. 12.

Novick has been up to the festival twice before: the year that it started and last year. She says that she met bill bissett back in the 1980s at the Milton Acorn Festival in Charlottetown, and they’ve been working together ever since.

“I loved doing it [the online festival this year]. I love the fact that Kathy [Figueroa] is so into enriching the culture and enriching society. To be able to share my thoughts and feelings and poetry and to be able to do it with bill, it was such a wonderful opportunity. Not only to hope that somebody will get something out of what I do, but to be able to do what I do and share it,” she says.



Honey Novick, right, and bill bissett present their poetry on YouTube, shared at the Word is Wild Literary Festival online last month. The event was moved online due to logistical problems related to COVID-19 health and safety restrictions. / Screenshot

Poet Tamara Best from Madoc, singer/songwriter David Flack from Maynooth, poet Strider Marcus Jones from Paris, France, singer/songwriter Albert Saxby from Haliburton, and poet Candice James from New Westminster, B.C. are among the other contributors to this online initiative so far.

According to Figueroa, the Cardiff Community Centre had already been booked in anticipation of a traditional pre-COVID-19 gathering, so that had to be cancelled. She says it was great to have prominent people in the Ontario and Canadian literary community come up to this area and share their work, and the stay at her writers’ retreat, Cardiff House, which is located in Cardiff.

Although Figueroa was not familiar with the latest live streaming technology like Zoom, she pressed on with having the festival on YouTube, and posting those videos online for all to see.

Figueroa is hoping that more local writers will be contributing to this showcase.

“I have extended invites to numerous poets and writers from the immediate area. Not everyone is technologically adept at creating videos of themselves presenting their work,

myself included, but given a bit of time, more YouTube videos or Sound Cloud recordings should appear. The beauty of launching an ongoing online event is that folks can now contribute their work at any time, and don’t have to meet a deadline. Though musician David Flack and his wife Aina live out of town, they spend summers in this region. So, he could be considered a ‘semi-local’ contributor, with the song he created from my poem ‘Come Up to Maynooth.’ I’m optimistic that eventually more local and regional work will be added to this online showcase,” she says.

There is so much uncertainty surrounding COVID-19 and its effects on our lives, that Figueroa plans to keep this online festival going indefinitely.

“I’d like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to any and all regional poets and authors to participate in this online project, either by contributing the text of their work, or links to online videos and/or other recordings,” she says. “My email address is flowertopia.studio@gmail.com or you can join this online showcase at www.facebook.com/PoetsSocietyofHastingsCountyNorthOntarioCanada/.”

The Bancroft Times

New Cases Reported Today		
0	0	1
Haliburton	KawarthaLakes	Northumberland

Total Confirmed Cases to Date			
19	185	48	252
Haliburton (HAL)	Kawartha Lakes (CKL)	Northumberland (NTH)	HKPRDHU

COVID-19 Contacts, Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County							
County	Cases Not Resolved	Cases Resolved	Current High-Risk Contacts	Current Probable Cases	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Deaths among Confirmed Cases	Deaths among Probable Cases
Haliburton	0	19	0	0	1	0	0
Kawartha Lakes	1	165	12	0	11	19	13
Northumberland	2	45	2	0	3	1	0

An update reported on the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit webpage on Oct. 27 shows no new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Haliburton County. The 19 previously reported cases of COVID-19 have been resolved. For more information visit <http://www.hkpr.on.ca/> / Screenshot from HKPRDHU website

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9	7	5	8	1	2	4	3	6
6	3	8	4	9	7	5	1	2
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(Past District Deputy Grand Master of Victoria District and member of Somerville Lodge 451, Kinmount). Passed away peacefully at the Hyland Crest Senior Citizens Home, Minden on Friday, October 23, 2020, at the age of 85.

Beloved husband of Sheila Graham (nee Armbrust) of Minden. Dear father of Pat (Bill) Dennison and Don Graham (the late Sherry Gill). Loving grandfather of Michael, Kristen, Candace (Jeremey Grimes) and great grandfather of Shyden and Bronson. Robert is predeceased by his sister Diane and survived by his brother-in-law Bill Traynor, by niece Judy, and by nephews John and Jim. Lovingly remembered by his family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden, Ontario on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 from 11:30 am until 12:30 pm.

****Due to COVID 19 restrictions, All visitors must remain in their vehicles in the Funeral Home Parking Lot until being escorted into the funeral home by funeral home staff, "contact tracing information" and the wearing of masks or facial coverings is mandatory. We appreciate your understanding during these times.****

A Private Family Service to celebrate Robert's Life will be held at the Funeral Home on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at 1:00 pm. Private Family Interment to follow at the Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery, Carnarvon.

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LOOK INSIDE



Remembering

War stories from local veterans are worth remembering on Nov. 11.
See page 3



Master plan

Minden councillors get a look at the master plan for Riverwalk.
See page 5



Fence building

Wendell Sedgwick used to nurture souls. Now he builds fences.
See page 10



Scare mongering

What a wonderful Hallowe'en Sunday evening turned out to be.
See pages 14, 15

In Quotes

"It's not exciting work and it's not fast work. It's boring, dull and deadly. And I rather enjoy it."

Wendell Sedgwick on building stone fences.
Page 10



Doreen Lane/TIMES

Something to scream about

Mother and daughter Liz and Hailey Griffin, 8, of West Guilford were given a frightful surprise at the haunted house in Camarvon on Hallowe'en. The haunted house was a screaming success for Pine Reflections Garden Centre and the Stanhope Fire Department. Local residents and firefighters helped supply the scares through some eerie portrayals of ghosts, ghouls, witches and *Friday the 13th* character, Jason. More than 300 people of all ages plunked down toonies to tour the house Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, with proceeds going to the fire department. The house was so popular that organizers are already talking about next year.

Use it or lose it, college says

Too few adults sign up for academic upgrading

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

If you don't use it, you'll lose it. That statement is seldom used in an educational context but in this case it may be appropriate.

Funding for the Sir Sandford Fleming College's Academic Upgrade Program in Minden will run out in March of 2005 and there is some concern that it may not be renewed. The Fleming program has been offered in Haliburton for about 14 years, but it was introduced for the first time in Minden in January of this year.

The second session in Minden began on September 13 and the number of adults taking advantage of the free program has decreased.

The current enrollment is nine.

Bob Smith, one of the three instructors, said an application for further funding will be filed before the money runs out at the end of March. "It will be easier to justify with a full house," he said. Realistically, he would like to see about 20 students participating, including some part-time.

"We need more students," said Wendy Colicchia, one of the Minden people who is taking advantage of the program. She is working on upgrading her education so she can pursue her goal of becoming a dental hygienist.

This program is the first step for Colicchia. She will have to complete some chemistry and biology

courses before she can enrol in the dental hygienist course and for those, she will have to go out of Haliburton County, probably to Fleming in Lindsay.

Sherry McLennan was another of the four students who were in attendance at this Tuesday session in the upper level of the Minden Hospital/Hyland Crest facility. Her goal is to become a Personal Support Worker. Responding to a comment from Colicchia that there is no shame in attending the academic upgrade classes, McLennan said, "It never occurred to me that there might be any shame involved. I'm proud that I'm actually in school."

see FUNDING page 4

Grinch can't stop Santa

Township will pay for parade insurance

by MARTHA PERKINS
Times staff

Minden Hills won't let the Grinch steal Christmas.

The municipality has come to the rescue of the Minden Santa Claus parade by agreeing to pay the insurance for the November 27 celebration for children.

"I'm so happy that I don't have to be the bearer of bad news," says John Guild, who's organizing the parade on behalf of the Minden Lions Club. "I didn't want to be the one who said, 'Sorry kids, there's no parade.'"

Insurance costs had been expected to rise to \$3,000 because a parade is now considered a high-risk event. Without any bingo games to help the Lions Club raise money for such events, the club was unable to absorb the cost. It asked the municipality to shoulder the responsibility and the municipality agreed.

"Without their support the Santa Claus parade would not be possible," Guild says.

Asked if had been able to reach Santa Claus at the North Pole to tell him the good news, Guild says he was able to confirm that the parade's main attraction will be in attendance.

"He looks forward to coming to Minden every year and meeting

see INSURANCE page 2

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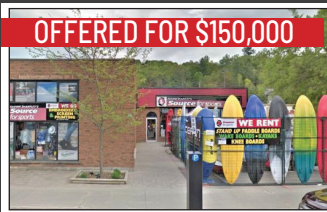
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457-2128 x23

Sharpley's Source for Sports

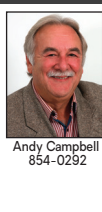
- Business opportunity in the heart of Haliburton
- Successful, thriving sporting goods and clothing business
- Contact us for more information



Dagmar Boettcher*
457-5968

Kushog Lake \$324,900

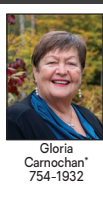
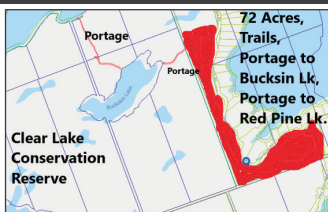
- Postage stamp lot with million-dollar view
- Newer insulated Maibec sided cottage
- Rock shelf shoreline with small sand area
- Western exposure with view up the lake



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Minden Rent-All

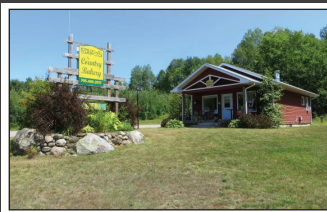
- Business Only
- 2020 is their best year
- Sthil, Cub Cadet & Honda



Gloria Carnochan*
754-1932

West Shore Rd Kennis Lk \$279,000

- 72 ac of forest /trails, also trail 2 Bucksin
- Portage 2 Redpine Lk, for canoe routes
- Snowmobiling, ATVing, biking, horse riding



Mark Denny*
457-0473

Hwy Commercial Opportunity \$299,900

- 666 Ft Rd Frtg, 3.4 Acr
- 868 Sq Ft Bldg, High traffic location
- Between Haliburton & Carnarvon on Hwy 118



Tom Ecclestone*
286-2138 x 26

Gull River Minden \$399,000

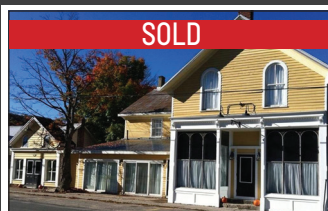
- 2 self contained 3 season cottages
- 235' of mixed shoreline, great swimming
- Just minutes to Minden or Big Gull Lake
- Excellent weekly rental income



Lindsay Elder*
457-5878

Brady Lake \$799,900

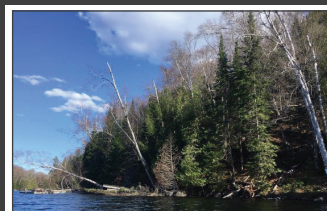
- Main house and guest cottage – both winterized
- Ultimate privacy with million dollar views!
- Over 200 feet of waterfront
- Renovations galore!



Andrew Hodgson**
286-2138 x 29

Heritage House \$699,000

- Updated and well-maintained historical building
- 6 residential rental units, with a 3 bdrm residence
- Part of the building is zoned commercial with many options for future usage



Susanne James*
Andy Mosher**
457-2128 x 33

Long Lake Lot \$199,900

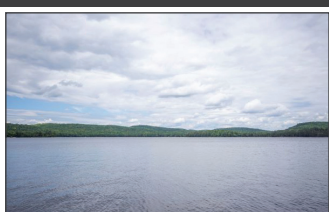
- Vacant lot with 100 feet of shoreline, approx. 1 acre
- 2-lake chain with Miskwabi Lake for miles of boating
- Year-round private road access



David Lee*
286-2138 x 27

Haliburton Home \$429,000

- Newer 3-bedroom, 2 bath home with good access to town & across from the rail trail
- Nicely finished, open concept living space and fully finished lower level



Donna McCallum*
455-2054

Percy Lake \$680,000

- 3.9 acre building lot, 555' of waterfront
- Incredible point lot with big lake views
- Private location, driveway installed
- HST INCLUDED



Brandon Nimigon*
457-2128 x 27

Haliburton Village \$300,000

- 2-Bedroom, 1 bath home, COMPLETELY renovated in 2020
- Right in downtown Haliburton, great starter or retirement location



Karen Nimigon**
457-6505

Irondale River \$459,000

- Great family home or investment property with 3000 sq ft, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths
- 5+ acres of riverfront, plenty of greenspace and, year-round access



Kirsten Rae*
286-2138 x 30

Industrial Park Rd \$1,200,000

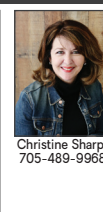
- 10,000 sq ft of mixed use industrial and commercial space
- Sitting on a private 6.75 acre lot in Haliburton
- Unlimited possibilities with this fantastic building!



Darlene Reil*
447-2055

Gooderham \$380,000

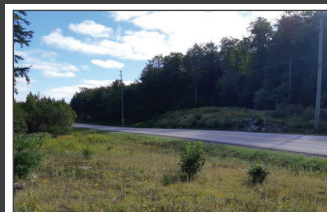
- Huge 3000 sq.ft. building
- With 2-bedroom apartment
- With multiple uses potential



Christine Sharp*
705-469-9968

WANTED; Your Listing

- Cottages, homes, land
- Evaluations based on today's market
- Call or visit C21 Carnarvon
- (705) 489-9969



Greg Stamp*
457-2128 x 28

County Road 21 \$179,000

- Acreage close to Haliburton Village & Pinestone Resort
- Beautifully Treed with driveway already installed.
- Ultimate privacy for residential use!



Melanie Vigras*
286-2138 x 32

Commercial Opportunity \$599,000

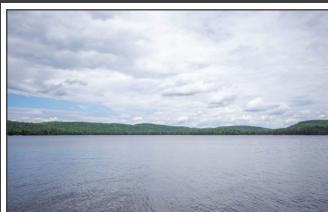
- Two parcels zoning 59 acres, 5 acres zoned commercial highway & 54 zoned disposal industrial
- Modern 3-bedroom, 2 bath home
- Approx. 7000 sq ft of space between 2 shops



Lindsay Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 23

Minden Building Lot \$169,900

- Excellent location with maximum exposure
- Commercial zoning with many possible uses
- Investment or your own business



Andrea Wilson**
457-2128 x 25

Gull Lake \$549,000

- Large private waterfront lot on a premium lakes
- 3.2 Acres, 240' of WF, level building site
- Hardpacked sand, shallow entry, cleaned and ready to build!

We are open for business! Our client's health remains our primary concern. Our REALTORS will be following certain protocols to ensure our clients safety. Contact us to learn more about our updated practices.

**PROUDLY PART OF THE HALIBURTON
HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY!**
CENTURY 21 Granite Realty
Group Ltd. BROKERAGE

Haliburton 705-457-2128 | Minden 705-286-2138 | Carnarvon 705-489-9968 | Kennis Lake 705-754-1932

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